

Peace in Christ Jan 16:33

I read a quote while I was studying that I thought would best express the directive - abate thoughts tonight.

Christmas is a strange time of year. That's when people celebrate the birth of the Prince of peace by buying toy rockets, submarines, artillery and hand grenades for their children.

- It does seem like a war out there.

But I believe E.C. can have peace in their daily lives by seeing the three realities compared in this precious verse

1. Peace can be Derived through the Precious Words of Christ
A. In ch 13-16 Christ is taking final moments w/ disciples. Giving words to encourage them, prepare them, and instruct them. We as disciples can draw out equal peace as they

B. Words of His Commandment to Occupy Us -
Ch 13: 34-35, Ch 14: 15, 21 Christ gave clear commands to follow. Ever marked a job where you really didn't know. But clear instructions take away anxiety. There is peace and satisfaction in obedience

C. Words of His Coming to Orient us: Ch 14: 1-3
Ch 16: 20, 21. He gave them word of his sure return, both of the resurrection and of second coming. While Baring example, frantic, fear + panic but in midst knowing the help coming orients our pain + fear

D. Words of a Comforter to Accompany Us -
14: 16-17, 16: 13-14 Jesus informs them that they will not be left alone in midst of a hostile + unbelieving world, Comforter to come along side. In these few short years of ministry, I don't know what I would have done w/o.

E. Words of His Choosing to fascinate Us.
Ch 15: 16 Peace and joy can be found in the wonder of amazing grace. I stand in awe at the workings of God but what a fascinating thrill to know that he chose me! All the might, weight of world Bible apply

Luke 12:19-20 And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry. But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?

II. Peace can be Drained by the Pressing Weight of the World
A. Not only reality of Peace from words, but reality of Peace drained by the world, off you in world, ye shall have tribulation = pressure or burden -

B. Superficial false Peace - The world does offer an exchange of Peace Ch 14:27 The world does offer a peace but it is superficial - The peace of trusting in prosperity. Luke 12: 19-20, The world offers peace through position: The latter days of King Belshazzar.

The world offers peace through profane living: King Belshazzar - Profane the vessels in a wicked orgie. But there was writing on the wall. Peace of world is fleeting

C. Spite-filled Persecution - Jesus is being very plain with his disciples. It is a certainty there will be persecution. Joh 15: 18

They hate me they will hate you. There is no doubt of the venomous hate this world has for Christ and his followers. The blows and jabs of an antagonistic world can squeeze what little peace we have out. Recent shooting in Colorado, hate of Christians that Donald Trump has drawn down on back to

III. Peace is Delivered through the Prevailing Work of Christ

A. I come to tell you there is ample peace ^{can} today available in Christ. Yes, we will have trials, but

B. Direct Pattern - In the work of Christ's life we find a direct Pattern to lay hold of Peace. Notice in Gethsemane it was the word of God he overcame with. When tested by the Pharisees it was the wisdom of God. When the weight and pressures bore down on Christ it was the worship of God he overcame with.

C. Divine Perspective - This word overcome is only used three times in the gospels. It means to conquer, to overcome or to prevail. Although Christ prevailed often in earthly ministry, these fail in comparison to the battle that he just ahead, in the midst of the brewing storm of cross. He says with assurance I have overcome ^{struggle} the world! ^{Dr. D.} Victory is already a settled matter. When we turn our eyes ^{for} Jesus

IV. Closing In the center of the whirlpool, while the waters rush around, there is a space of perfect stillness, —————>

In the center of the whirlpool, while the waters rush around,

There's a space of perfect stillness, though with turmoil it is
bound, All is calm, and all is quiet, scarcely e'en a sense of sound.

So with us – despite the conflict – when in Christ His peace is
found